

CES Environmental Services:

History/Background:

- 1999: CES Starts operations
- 2008 – 2009: 3 Workers died on the job (2 at CES and 1 at PACES with 2 by H2S and 1 by explosion)
- August 2009: Law Enforcement raid at CES
- August 2010: Facility filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Protection
- September 2010: Converted the a Chapter 7 Bankruptcy
- May – November 2012: EPA Conducted Removal action at PACES
- July 2012: Owner indicted on 13 counts
- May 2013: Owner pleaded guilty on 2 counts
- March 15, 2014: Vandalism at the CES Facility resulting in release of chemicals to the environment (2 Tanker Trucks, 1 Vacuum Box, and 7 Roll-off Boxes stolen with materials believed to be dumped on-site within AST secondary containment or the ground)
- March 21, 2014: EPA became involved in discussions with TCEQ concerning the site. Significant odors emanating from the site as a result of the spills. Trustee handled much of the cleanup.
- April 1, 2014: EPA/TCEQ visited site and had to back away due to the odors emanating from the site. Slight odors noticed off-site in residential areas.
- April 21, 2014: During this week, TCEQ had their ER Contractor secure the facility, place roll-off materials on plastic with plastic cover, enhance secondary containment with fill material, provide secondary containment around select areas of the maintenance building, operations building, and to restrict access to the Wayland St entrance to facility. Additionally, they relocated chemicals from the Wayland St. warehouse and provided containment around spills from vacuum boxes.
- March 21 – July 31: TCEQ has been taking the lead in dealing with the Trustee to see what actions they could take to address the site. There was a potential for a contractor to perform the cleanup and get paid out of the property sale proceeds and the potential for a prospective purchaser. None materialized.
- June 17, 2014: Court approved and emergency motion for \$131,705 for Trustee to hire a cleanup contractor to address 1 vacuum box, 1 roll-off box, and materials dumped by vandals out of the 7 roll-off boxes stolen. The containers were leaking due to corrosion and seal failures. The wastes have been profiled and are waiting disposal.
- Since March 21, 2014: TCEQ has indicated that it will likely be requesting EPA assistance to address this site but wanted to make sure that the Trustee does everything it possibly can before either EPA or TCEQ takes any further significant actions. TCEQ indicates that it plans to assist with \$500,000 worth of disposal and plans to contract with a disposal company through its contractor for disposal of some of the wastes on-site. The EPA contractor will obtain the bids and select the disposal facility and then provide the bid summary to the TCEQ contractor to use that summary for its disposal contract. EPA will load all containers and TCEQ will sign the manifest for the waste it ships off-site and EPA will sign the manifests for the waste it ships off-site.
- July 31, 2014: EPA obtains documents seized by the law enforcement raid in 2009 to attempt to determine if there are PRPs. This enforcement process is time consuming and will likely take up to at least 4 months to complete.
- July 31, 2014: A release occurred from the facility and into the neighborhood to the south of the Site. The suspected cause of the release was vandalism as a valve was opened on an oil and

water tank trailer that was spilled to the ground. A significant rainfall occurred that evening and moved the on-site materials off-site into ditches impacting some right-of-ways on residential properties. The City of Houston, TCEQ, and EPA responded. TCEQ was the lead on the cleanup. EPA assisted by conducting source water sample from ditch, and post cleanup sampling (air, soil, tanker trailer). Future runoff from facility has been restricted by earthen dikes and fencing around the facility has been repaired.

Environmental Issues

- Containers with hazardous substances (hazardous waste) that have a high likelihood of releasing to the environment should action be delayed. Some of the waste has a high odor threshold and will cause nauseating exposures as well as chemical exposures to the surrounding populations and the school should a release occur. It is not if the containers will leak but when will they leak.
- Weather conditions (hurricanes, tropical storms, significant thunderstorms, flash floods) could cause a flooding rain or high winds which could damage the containers causing a release of chemicals into the surrounding residential populations.
- Lightning strikes could result in a release of the chemicals into the environment and into the community causing exposures.
- Arson, Vandalism and the like could also cause a release and exposures. Vandalism has already been documented in a release and exposure to the potential exposure the surrounding populations.

Siting:

- The site is surrounded completely by residential properties, commercial properties, and educational facilities.
- The neighborhood is an environmental justice area.

Proposed Actions:

- Obtain facility access to the site from the Trustee;
- Open an assessment TDD with START Contractor to: begin inventorying, hazcatting, and disposal sampling of the various containers on-site;
 - o Inventory containers and determine volumes;
 - o Hazcat containers as appropriate for bulking, as appropriate;
 - o Conduct disposal sampling (TCLP, Totals, BTU, etc.) with consultation with ERRS Contractor;
 - o Conduct initial air monitoring/sampling to have a baseline prior to cleanup actions;
- Open a TDD with the START Contractor to provide removal support and conduct the following:
 - o Removal Documentation;
 - o Perimeter Air Monitoring Support;
 - o Technical Assistance;

- Issue a Task Order to the ERRS Contractor to work with us during the inventorying and disposal sampling phase so they can immediately get the containers profiled and accepted into a disposal facility and begin disposal as soon as physically possible. The ERRS contractor will be mobed and demobed as necessary. We envision that the contractor will be local to Houston area. The ERRS contractor will be doing the following activities:
 - o Profile/Dispose of Chemical Wastes;
 - o Drain all piping of chemical waste;
 - o Decontaminate ASTs, Vacuum Boxes, Roll-Off boxes, Frac Tanks, drums, totes, and other miscellaneous containers;
 - o Decontaminate secondary containment and equipment areas near ASTs
 - o Decontaminate concrete surfaces in building where contamination is evident;
 - o Decontaminate asphalt/concrete within the facility property;

Soils:

- EPA has no intention of addressing a soil cleanup, although if wanted, we could assess the soils on-site and then make a determination if we should assess off-site soils of adjoin properties based upon the results of the on-site soil sampling results.

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